







determine whether these appropriations shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise and by whom expended, or in any way act thereon.

This is a standard article appearing on the Warrant to appropriate funds to support capital expenditures. While the article is general as to the categories of capital expenditures, the motion shall be explicit. The recommendations of the Capital Budget Committee for FY 2011 capital expenditures will be provided in advance of the Annual Town Meeting.

Majority vote required for passage (two-thirds if borrowing) Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

**Article 9 will be taken up when Town Meeting resumes on May 25.**

**ARTICLE 10: Appropriation for Water and Sewer and Stormwater Services**

*To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the accounts classified as an “Enterprise Fund”, pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F½ of the General Laws for water service, and for sewer and stormwater service, determine by whom expended, or in any way act thereon.*

This is a standard article appearing on the Warrant to appropriate funds to support the operations of the Town’s water and sewer functions. Each of these functions has an enterprise fund that receives revenues from user fees. These funds then are used to fund the utility’s operations. These operations are entirely self-supporting from user fees and do not receive any funding from property taxes.

Majority vote required for passage (two-thirds for borrowing) Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

**Article 10 will be taken up when Town Meeting resumes on May 25.**

**ARTICLE 11: Authorization of Expenditure from Revolving Funds**

*To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E½, of the General Laws, to establish and authorize the expenditure from revolving funds by various Town Departments, or in any way act thereon.*

This article seeks authorization to establish revolving funds for certain operations of the Town. A revolving fund allows the expenditure of user fees for program expenses without further Town Meeting appropriation. However, the Town Meeting must annually renew the funds. At this time, the Board of Selectmen and Warrant Committee are considering the use of revolving funds for the following programs:

<b>Revolving Account</b>	<b>Spending Authority</b>	<b>Revenue Source</b>	<b>Allowed Expenses</b>	<b>Expenditure Limits</b>
Teen/Youth Events	Recreation Commission	Event fees	Teen/youth center events	\$5,000
Senior Programs	Council on Aging	Course and program fees	Program costs, including trip expenses	\$50,000
Art Gallery	Belmont Cultural Council	Percentage of art sales	Gallery exhibit and event expenses	\$15,000



**ARTICLE 15: Minuteman School Feasibility Study**

*To see if the Town will vote to approve the sum of \$725,000 of borrowing authorized by the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District for the purpose of paying costs for a feasibility study to consider options for making improvements to the District's high school building located at 758 Marrett Road, Lexington, Massachusetts, which options shall include, but not be limited to renovating, reconstructing, expanding, remodeling, and adding to the District's high school, or any combination of the foregoing, said sum to be expended at the direction of the Minuteman School Building Committee, with the understanding that the Massachusetts School Building Authority's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs of the Project that the District incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the District; and also with the understanding that the total amount of the borrowing authorized by said vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the District and the MSBA; and also with the understanding that no sums shall be borrowed or expended thereunder unless and until each member town of the District shall have expressed its approval of the debt authorized thereunder, or to take any other action relative thereto.*

This article is a request from the Minuteman Regional Career and Technical High School to approve the school's borrowing for a feasibility study for improvements to the Minuteman school building. The school expects to receive a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority to cover approximately 40% of the eligible cost. If Belmont's Town Meeting or any of the other 15 towns in the school district vote against this request, the borrowing cannot go forward. If approved, the cost impact to Belmont would not begin until fiscal year 2012.

**Article 15 was DISAPPROVED. A motion to reconsider the vote failed.**

**ARTICLE 16: Warrant Committee Reports on Zoning Articles**

*To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Belmont General By-laws by inserting a new Section 19.3 and renumbering accordingly as follows:*

*"19.3 Should the Committee elect to report to Town Meeting on any warrant article setting forth a proposed amendment to the Belmont zoning by-law, the Committee chair shall, within no more than seven (7) days after the close of the Planning Board hearing concerning the proposed amendment, deliver to the Planning Board a finding that the proposed zoning by-law amendment will have a positive, negative or neutral impact on Town finances or a finding that the Committee lacks a sufficient basis to determine the impact on Town finances. The finding shall include a statement of the facts upon which the Committee bases its finding along with a report of the Committee vote on the finding, including the number in favor and against the same. A written copy of the finding shall be provided to Town Meeting as part of the Planning Board report to Town Meeting regarding the proposed zoning by-law amendment. Nothing in this section shall be construed so as to prevent the Town from amending its zoning by-law or taking any other action according to law, without the matter having been acted upon and a finding and report made thereon by the Committee."*

*, or in any way act thereon.*

This article seeks to modify the method by which the Warrant Committee reports on warrant articles setting forth proposed amendments to the Belmont zoning by-law. While the article does not mandate a Warrant Committee report on zoning by-law amendments, should the Committee elect to make such a report, the Committee report shall contain prescribed information and shall be delivered first to the Planning Board to be included in the Planning Board report to Town Meeting. Because it was presented as a valid citizen's petition, by law the text of this article is exactly as was presented in the petition.

**Article 16 was DISAPPROVED.**

**ARTICLE 17: Reports to Town Meeting**

*To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Belmont General By-laws by inserting a new Section 2.7.4 and renumbering accordingly as follows:*

*“2.7.4 Upon a written motion by no fewer than ten Town Meeting Members, in a format prescribed by the Moderator, Town Meeting shall consider a request to require any elected municipal board or commission, or any elected Townwide official, to prepare a written report containing specifically requested information by a date certain, so long as that date is no sooner than ninety (90) days subsequent to the date on which Town Meeting votes to approve the request. The written motion shall be submitted no later than three (3) days prior to the date of the Town Meeting session at which such motion is considered. The motion shall relate to a pending warrant article and shall, at a minimum, identify the warrant article to which it applies, and shall contain the name of the elected Board, Commission or official to whom the request is directed; the information sought; and the date by which the written report containing the information is to be prepared. The Town Clerk shall circulate the written report to all Town Meeting Members as soon as is reasonably practicable after the date specified in the petition, which may be accomplished by posting the report on the Town Meeting World Wide Web site.”*

*, or in any way act thereon.*

This article seeks to create a process by which Town Meeting may direct identified elected municipal officials to prepare written reports to be delivered to Town Meeting Members during the time between Town Meetings. The report must be in writing and may be delivered to Town Meeting Members by posting the written report on the Town Meeting World Wide Web (WWW) site. Because it was presented as a valid citizen's petition, by law the text of this article is exactly as was presented in the petition.

**Article 17 was DISAPPROVED.**

**ARTICLE 18: Copies of Budget for Town Meeting Members**

*To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Belmont General By-laws by inserting a new section 2.5 and renumbering accordingly as follows:*

*“2.5 No fewer than twenty-one (21) days prior to the first date of any annual town meeting session at which the Belmont annual budget will be presented for consideration, the Town Clerk shall cause a copy of the budget to be sent by mail or delivered to the Town Meeting Members. Copies of the budget shall be made available to the public at the Town Clerk's Office and Belmont Public Libraries at least fourteen (14) days before the first date on which Town*

*Meeting will consider the budget. This bylaw section may be waived by a two-thirds majority vote of Town Meeting Members present and voting.”*

*, or in any way thereon.*

This article seeks to impose a requirement that Town Meeting Members be provided a written copy of the Belmont budget for a minimum time period prior to being called upon to vote upon the budget. The requirement may be waived by a vote of Town Meeting Members. Because it was presented as a valid citizen’s petition, by law the text of this article is exactly as was presented in the petition.

**Article 18 was postponed until after consideration of Article 5 when Town meeting resumes in May.**

**ARTICLE 19: Notice of Candidacy for Town Meeting**

*To see if the Town will vote to amend the General by-laws of the Town by adding the following language to Section 2.3:*

*“Pursuant to Section 10 of Chapter 53 of the General Laws, the Town Clerk shall set a date for persons desiring to file nomination papers for election as Town Meeting Member at least 35 days before the annual town election (with that date referred to as the “final filing date”); and for incumbent Town Meeting Members to give notice of their intent to run for reelection at least 21 days prior to the final filing date.*

*The Town Clerk shall give incumbent Town Meeting Members at least fourteen (14) days notice of the deadline for filing notices of their intent to run for reelection.”*

*, or in any way act thereon.*

This Article seeks to ensure that persons interested in running for Town Meeting Member have 21 days advance notice of the intent by incumbent Town Meeting Members to run for reelection and further to ensure that incumbent Town Meeting Members have at least 14 days to decide whether they will run for reelection. Because it was presented as a valid citizen’s petition, by law the text of this article is exactly as was presented in the petition.

**Article 19 was APPROVED.**

**ARTICLE 20: Legislative Petition - Election of Town Meeting Members**

*To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on its behalf, to petition the General Court for passage of a special law substantially in the following form, on in any way act thereon:*

*“An Act Amending the Representative Town Meeting Act of the  
Town of Belmont*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

**Section 1.** *Clause (c) of Section 2 of said chapter 302 is amended by inserting at the end the following paragraph:*

*No person shall be elected a town meeting member unless that person receives a total number of votes at least equal to ten (10).*

**Section 2.** *This act shall take effect upon passage.”*

This article would petition the state Legislature to amend the law establishing Representative Town Meeting in Belmont, by establishing a minimum number of votes necessary to election as a Town Meeting Member. Because it was presented as a valid citizen’s petition, by law the text of this article is exactly as was presented in the petition.

**Article 20 was DISAPPROVED.**

**ARTICLE 21: Legislative Petition – Restaurant Liquor Licenses**

*To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on its behalf, to petition the General Court for the passage of a special law substantially in the following form, or in any way act thereon:*

*“AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE GRANTING OF LICENSES FOR THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN CERTAIN RESTAURANTS IN THE TOWN OF BELMONT.*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

**SECTION 1.** *Chapter 14 of the acts of 2004 is hereby repealed.*

**SECTION 2.** *The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Belmont may, at its discretion, grant licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages in restaurants having at least 60 and not more than 250 seats; provided, however, that not more than 10 such licenses shall be in effect. The licenses shall be subject to all the other provisions of said chapter 138 of the General Laws.*

**SECTION 3.** *This act shall take effect upon its passage.”*

This article would petition the State Legislature to amend the law allowing the Town to grant liquor licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to restaurants. The changes would increase the number of such licenses from 3 to 10 and would decrease the minimum seating requirement from 130 to 60.

**Article 21 was APPROVED.**

**ARTICLE 22: Emergency Radio Building Regulations**

*To see if the Town will vote to amend the General By-laws of the Town in Article 20, “Public Safety And Property” as follows:*

*By adding the following new Section 20.13:*

*“20.13 The Board of Selectmen may promulgate regulations relative to the construction or substantial renovation of buildings to facilitate the operation of communications equipment by emergency personnel. Single-family and two-family residences shall not be subject to these regulations.”;*

*and by renumbering existing Section 20.13 as Section 20.14 and amending said Section by striking the wording “20.9 and 20.12 of this Article 20” and replacing it with the wording “20.9, 20.12, and 20.13 of this Article 20 and any regulations promulgated thereunder”, and by striking the wording “as used in this Section 20.13” and replacing it with the wording “as used in this Section 20.14”;*

*or in any way act thereon.*

This article would give the Selectmen authority to make regulations governing the construction of buildings to ensure that public safety radios can operate properly within the building. One and two family homes would be exempt. Violations would be fined by the same process and at the same rate (\$300 per offense) as other by-law violations.

**Article 22 was APPROVED.**

**ARTICLE 23: Quarterly Tax Billing**

*To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for the enactment of a special law in substantially the following form:*

***“AN ACT RELATIVE TO QUARTERLY TAX BILLING IN THE TOWN OF BELMONT***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

***SECTION 1.*** *Chapter 195 of the Acts of 2004 is hereby repealed.*

***SECTION 2.*** *This act shall take effect upon its passage.”*

*, or in any way act thereon.*

This article would repeal the special state law governing the Town’s ability to issue quarterly tax bills. The law was designed to allow the Town to send one estimated bill and three actual bills; however, it has so far not been possible to implement this change, so repealing the law will legally return to the current practice of sending two estimated and two actual bills.

**Article 23 was APPROVED.**

**ARTICLE 24: Zoning Amendment – Floodplain District**

*To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Belmont Zoning By-law in Section 2.4 “Floodplain District Delineation” and Section 6.6 “Floodplain District” as follows:*

*In Section 2.4 “Floodplain District Delineation” by deleting the entire section and replacing it with the following new Section 2.4 “Floodplain District Delineation”:*

***“2.4 Floodplain District Delineation***

*The Floodplain District is herein established as an overlay district. The District includes all special flood hazard areas within the Town of Belmont designated as Zone A and AE, on the Middlesex County Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the administration of the National Flood*

*Insurance Program. The map panels of the Middlesex County FIRM that are wholly or partially within the Town of Belmont are panel numbers 25017C0412E, 25017C0414E, 25017C0416E, 25017C0418E and 25017C0419E dated June 4, 2010. The exact boundaries of the District may be defined by the 100-year base flood elevations shown on the FIRM and further defined by the Middlesex County Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report dated June 4, 2010. The FIRM and FIS report are incorporated herein by reference and are on file with the Town Clerk.”;*

*and in Section 6.6 “Floodplain District” by striking and replacing the following language:*

*In Section 6.6.2 “Definitions”, under the definition “FLOOD HAZARD BOUNDARY MAP (FHBM)”, by striking the wording “Zone A or E” and replacing it with the wording “Zone A or Zone AE”;*

*In Section 6.6.4 “Requirements”, by striking the wording “780 CMR 3107 of the Massachusetts State Building Code” and replacing it with the wording “780 CMR 120.G of the Massachusetts State Building Code”, and by striking the wording “302 CMR 6.00, Inland Wetlands Restriction, Department of Environmental Protection” and replacing it with the wording “310 CMR 13.00, Inland Wetlands Restriction, Department of Environmental Protection”;*

*In Section 6.6.5 “Floodway Requirements”, subsection a) “Floodway Data”, by striking the wording “In Zone A, A1-30 and AE” and replacing it with the wording “In Zone A and Zone AE”,*

*or in any way act thereon.*

This article would update the sections of the Zoning By-law that reference the Floodplain District to reflect changes in the Middlesex County Floodplain Map and in the state regulations which pertain to the Floodplain District.

**Article 24 was APPROVED.**

## **ARTICLE 25: Zoning Amendment – Outdoor Seating and Parking Requirements**

*To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Belmont Zoning By-law in Sections 1.4 “Definitions and Abbreviations” and 5.1 “Off-Street Parking and Loading”, as follows:*

*In Section 1.4, ‘Definitions and Abbreviations’, by inserting after the definition “Other Retail Sales and Services” a new definition as follows:*

**“Outdoor Seasonal Seating** – *Outdoor seating that is provided on a seasonal basis in an area contiguous to a restaurant to which the seating is associated.”;*

*and in Section 5.1.2 “Schedule of Requirements”, subsection d) “Restaurant”, by adding at the end of the subsection the wording “For purposes of calculating parking requirements, up to 20 outdoor seasonal seats shall not count in total seating capacity”, so that the bylaw reads as follows:*

**5.1 “Off-Street Parking and Loading**

**5.1.2 Schedule of Requirements**

- d) *Restaurant: one parking space per 2 persons seating capacity. **For purposes of calculating parking requirements, up to 20 outdoor seasonal seats shall not count in total seating capacity.***

, or in any way act thereon.

This article would amend the Zoning By-law to exempt seasonal outdoor seating from the total seating capacity used to determine parking space requirements for a business.

**Article 25 was APPROVED.**

**ARTICLE 26: Residential Building Setback Line Removal**

*To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the building set back lines in the residentially zoned districts of the Town, as voted at prior Town Meetings, as follows, or in any way act thereon:*

<b>STREET NAME</b>	<b>MAP AND PARCEL NUMBER</b>
Acorn Street	5-44 through 5-45, 5-61 through 5-62
Belmont Street	3-147, 3-197 through 3-204
Berwick Street	1-117, 1-126 through 1-136
Blanchard Road	21-25, 21-94 through 21-96, 21-102 through 21-103A, 21-139 through 21-141B
Bright Road	21-1 through 21-11, 21-25, 21-33 through 21-39, 21-50 through 21-71, 21-123
Common Street	6-53 through 6-55, 6-63 through 6-68, 6-76, 6-101, 6-126 through 6-127, 6-171 through 6-173, 6-178, 16-1 through 16-8, 16-103 through 16-106, 17-30A, 17-34 through 17-35, 17-65, 17-74 through 17-81, 17-116 through 17-119, 18-13, 18-28 through 18-29, 18-48 through 18-49, 18-60 through 18-61, 18-81 through 18-83, 18-103 through 18-104, 18-130 through 18-131, 18-137 through 18-139, 24-10, 24-60A through 24-62, 25-6 through 25-10, 25-26 through 25-29, 25-44, 31-12, 31-25 through 31-27, 31-38 through 31-42
Concord Avenue	22-177 through 22-187, 36-3
Cushing Avenue	5-18 through 5-20, 5-57 through 5-58, 5-85 through 5-87, 5-108 through 5-110, 5-116 through 5-118, 6-205 through 6-206, 6-215 through 6-216, 6-222 through 6-232
Dartmouth Street	1-137 through 1-144, 1-147 through 1-157
Elm Street	8-52 through 8-57
Exeter Street	1-11 through 1-14, 1-18 through 1-22
Fairview Avenue	1-117 through 1-118, 1-130, 1-144 through 1-147, 1-167 through 1-168, 2-39 through 2-42, 2-73 through 2-74, 10-79A through 10-80, 10-97 through 10-98, 11-1, 11-4
Falmouth Street	2-42 through 2-44, 2-51 through 2-59, 2-62 through 2-73
Goden Street	18-71, 18-169 through 18-186, 19-5 through 19-8, 19-115 through 19-132
Grove Street	10-99 through 10-100
Hillside Terrace	8-47
Lawndale Street	3-148 through 3-149, 3-148A, 3-179 through 3-195
Lexington Street	15-170 through 15-175A, 15-193A through 15-195, 15-201 through

	15-203A, 15-212, 15-219 through 15-221, 28-47 through 28-54, 28-81 through 28-84, 28-171 through 28-175
Marlboro Street	1-52 through 1-61, 1-65 through 1-74, 1-158-through 1-167, 1-169 through 1-180
Oak Avenue	5-58 through 5-85, 6-195 through 6-196, 6-216 through 6-222
Oakley Road	3-162 through 3-163, 3-178 through 3-179, 3-195 through 3-197, 4-35 through 4-38, 4-79 through 4-84, 5-1 through 5-18, 6-1A, 6-1 through 6-5, 6-150 through 6-151, 6-199 through 6-205, 7-12 through 7-13, 7-38 through 7-40, 7-68A, 7-68 through 7-74
Oxford Avenue	1-41 through 1-50, 1-181 through 1-189, 1-193 through 1-198
Oxford Circle	1-198 through 1-199
Park Road	2-14 through 2-22, 2-28 through 2-39
Payson Road	3-147 through 3-153, 4-1 through 4-7, 4-21 through 4-22, 4-27 through 4-28, 6-151 through 6-171, 6-179 through 6-199, 7-74 through 7-80, 7-90 through 7-97, 8-48 through 8-51
Payson Road/Elm Street	3-100A
Pine Street	5-20 through 5-37, 5-42 through 5-57, 6-197 through 6-198, 6-206 through 6-215
Pleasant Street	34-126 through 34-130, 34-149 through 34-150A, 34-152 through 34-160, 44-127 through 44-134, 45-37A, 45-37 through 45-41, 45-42A, 45-43, 46-32, 46-39 through 46-42, 46-57 through 46-58, 46-62, 46-104, 47-1 through 47-9, 47-32 through 47-33, 47-87 through 47-95, 48-6 through 48-8, 57-1A, 57-1 through 57-8
School Street	2-156 through 2-166, 3-2 through 3-22, 8-1 through 8-11, 8-28 through 8-29, 9-125 through 9-126, 9-228 through 9-245, 19-1, 19-14 through 19-15, 19-24 through 19-31, 19-40, 19-46, 19-70 through 19-76, 20-100A, 20-103 through 20-104, 20-133 through 20-139, 23-38 through 23-43, 23-46, 23-60 through 23-71, 23-77, 23-93 through 23-95, 23-113 through 23-115, 24-1B, 24-7 through 24-14, 24-16, 24-31 through 24-32, 24-52 through 24-55, 24-56A, 24-62, 24-65 through 24-67
Spruce Street	5-10 through 5-11, 5-28 through 5-29, 5-49 through 5-50, 5-65 through 5-66
Trapelo Road	5-1, 5-38 through 5-42, 5-72 through 5-73, 5-98 through 5-101, 12-112 through 12-129, 12-154 through 12-155, 12-175 through 12-177, 12-194 through 12-195, 12-214 through 12-221, 13-12 through 13-14, 14-1, 14-180, 14-242, 14-251 through 14-252
Unity Avenue	1-50 through 1-52, 1-74 through 1-84, 1-125 through 1-126, 1-136 through 1-137, 1-157 through 1-158, 1-180 through 1-181, 2-36 through 2-37, 2-44 through 2-51
Washington Street	6-1A, 6-27 through 6-28, 6-34 through 6-36, 6-51 through 6-53, 7-1 through 7-12, 8-94 through 8-95, 9-151 through 9-158, 9-223 through 9-228, 18-139 through 18-142, 18-144 through 18-147, 18-151 through 18-154, 18-160 through 18-161, 18-168 through 18-169, 19-61 through 19-70, 19-132 through 19-133, 20-75 through 20-76, 20-

	111 through 20-112, 20-126, 20-139 through 20-142, 21-1, 21-24
White Street	15-12 through 15-19, 15-57 through 15-59, 15-77 through 15-79, 15-106 through 15-107, 15-114 through 15-115, 15-127 through 15-128, 15-146 through 15-147, 15-149 through 15-152, 15-159 through 15-165, 15-182 through 15-193, 27-128 through 27-129, 27-133A through 138, 27-155A
Willow Street	5-87 through 5-98, 5-103 through 5-108

This article would repeal decades-old residential building setback requirements that were created before the Town had zoning. Removing these requirements would eliminate any confusion or contradictions with the Zoning By-law which governs such matters.

**Article 26 was APPROVED.**

**ARTICLE 27: Resolution – Comprehensive Plan**

*To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following resolution, or in any way act thereon:*

*“WHEREAS, the Town of Belmont has not had a Comprehensive Plan to guide its growth and development since 1963; and*

*WHEREAS, the Town Meeting adopted “A Working Vision for Belmont’s Future” on April 23, 2001; and*

*WHEREAS, guided by that Vision, the Planning Board, bringing together many Town boards, committees, commissions, departments, property and business owners and residents, has prepared a Comprehensive Plan to provide a framework for making decisions and setting policies concerning land use issues and to preserve our quality of life as an economically, environmentally and socially sustainable community in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, therefore be it*

*RESOLVED, that the Town of Belmont:*

*ENDORSES the Land Use Vision for the Future where:*

- *Neighborhoods, village centers, parks and playgrounds are interconnected through a network of roads, sidewalks, public transit and open space pathways;*
- *Safe pedestrian and bicycle routes provide access to commercial centers, schools and other public amenities, and regional transit, reducing reliance on the automobile;*
- *Open spaces and vistas provide connections to the beauty of the natural world, preserve a sense of light and space, and offer places for community gathering and interaction;*
- *The unique character of each neighborhood, both residences and the business areas that serve them, is recognized and enhanced;*
- *Appropriate improvements and renovations increase property values, increase energy efficiency, and provide a broad range of housing to meet the needs of 21<sup>st</sup> Century households;*

- *Tree lined streets, yards and small open spaces provide breathing room and beauty in neighborhoods;*
- *Commercial centers are revitalized through public improvements and redevelopment of underutilized properties;*
- *New developments support vibrant businesses and lively streetscapes, and offer smaller housing options with easy walking access to goods, services and transit;*
- *Historic properties and aspects of the Town are preserved and are complemented by new buildings and growth which sustain the Town's character while serving the needs of new generation; and*

*ENDORSES the primary goals recommended by the Comprehensive Plan as steps to achieving the vision, including:*

- *Enhance connections through open space, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure;*
- *Improve and promote public transit;*
- *Expand housing choices;*
- *Reinforce Belmont's neighborhoods through natural and historic resource protection;*
- *Refocus control of future development on design guidelines and review;*
- *Revitalize commercial centers through public and private investments;*
- *Clarify the land use vision for each commercial district;*
- *Allow economically viable development which complements the Town's historic character;*
- *Link public facilities and financial planning to land use priorities; and*

*SUPPORTS the decision of the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board to adopt the Comprehensive Plan, "A Vision for Belmont: Mapping a Sustainable Future," for the Town pursuant to Chapter 41, Section 81D of the Massachusetts General Laws."*

This article would adopt a resolution endorsing the goals of the Comprehensive Plan.

**Article 27 was tabled. It may be taken up again on May 25 but no final action is required.**